

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-03

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /004 W

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R 161848Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1207

INFO 435TH MASW RHEINMAIN GERMANY

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FOLLOWING MSG SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO SECDEF, CSAF WASHDC,
627TH DOZ RAF MILDENHALL 15 MAY 75, REPEATED FOR YOUR INFO:

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP, UK

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE USE OF MAC AIRCRAFT

1. EMBOFF WAS CONTACTED 15 MAY BY OFFICE OF FORMER
PRIME MINISTER HEATH, WHICH HAS ENCOUNTERED DIFFICULTIES
SCHEDULING HIS APPEARANCES IN SCOTLAND NEXT WEEK IN
SUPPORT OF BRITAIN'S CONTINUED MEMBERSHIP IN COMMON
MARKET AND HEATH'S COMMITMENT TO ADDRESS NATIONAL PRESS
CLUB ON 23 MAY. PRIVATE SECRETARY SAID HEATH FINDS HE
CANNOT MAKE CONNECTIONS WITH ANY COMMERCIAL FLIGHT
THAT WOULD PERMIT HIM ARRIVE IN WASHINGTON PRIOR TO
LUNCHEON WITHOUT CANCELLING APPEARANCE AT IMPORTANT
SCOTTISH RALLY ON 22 MAY AND ASKS IF, PERHAPS, USAF
COULD HELP.

2. HE WONDERES WHETHER HEATH AND HIS SECRETARY COULD BE
ACCOMMODATED ON A MAC AIRCRAFT TRANSITING PRESTWICK,
ONE OR MORE OF WHICH ARE UNDERSTOOD TO BE DEPARTING FOR
THE US LATE ON 22 MAY OR EARLY THE FOLLOWING MORNING.

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PRIVATE SECRETARY SAID MR. HEATH IS WELL AWARE SUCH

PLANES ARE PRINCIPALLY CARGO CARRIERS AND ARE BOTH NOISY AND SPARTAN IN ACCOMMODATION. HIS REAL INTEREST IS IN MEETING BOTH ENGAGEMENTS, AND WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATIVE IF AVAILABILITY OF MAC AIRCRAFT COULD SOLVE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM.

3. EMBASSY HAS CHECKED WITH LOCAL MAC REPRESENTATIVE WHO HAS INDICATED THAT, WHILE PRESENTLY SCHEDULED FLIGHTS WOULD NOT ARRIVE US IN TIME PERMIT HEATH ADDRESS PRESS CLUB LUNCHEON, OTHER FLIGHTS THROUGH AREA PROBABLY COULD BE ADJUSTED TO PERMIT PICKUP PRESTWICK AND DELIVERY AT ANDREWS AFB ON 23 MAY. REQUEST DEPARTMENT TAKE UP MATTER WITH AIR FORCE AND, IF AIRCRAFT IS AVAILABLE, CERTIFY TRANSPORT OF MR. HEATH AND HIS SECRETARY FROM PRESTWICK TO ANDREWS AS BEING IN THE NATIONAL INTEREST OF THE US.

4. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP AS MR. HEATH WILL BE FORCED RE-

ARRANGE SPEAKING SCHEDULE IF MAC TRANSPORT UNAVAILABLE.

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